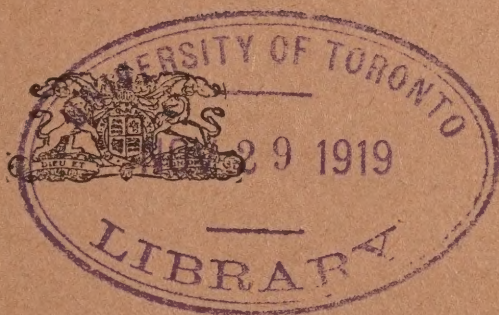


Gov. Doc Canada Public Information, Sept. 1919
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Issued by the Department of Public Information

OTTAWA, SEPTEMBER 16, 1919

OTTAWA
J. DE LABROQUERIE TACHÉ,
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
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WHAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITIA DOES.

Brings the Soldier home and transports him to the Demobilization centre of his choice, where he receives his discharge and back pay, and is given transportation to his home, if this be away from the point at which dispersal takes place.

Gives him substantial financial assistance towards re-establishment in civilian life, by means of the War Service Gratuity. Under the gratuity arrangements sergeants, corporals, lance-corporals and private soldiers who have served overseas receive \$100 a month if they have dependents, and \$70 a month if they have no dependents for periods graduated up to a maximum of six months, in accordance with length of service.

MILITIA DEPARTMENT.

WITH the close of the war two prime considerations governed the Militia Department's treatment of the Canadian soldier, namely, to bring him home and give him a strong send-off into civilian life by means of the War Service Gratuity. In working out these objects, it may be safely said that Canada's effort has been second to none. Delayed by strikes and dockyard difficulties, held up by lack of shipping facilities and by many other problems, the Dominion has repatriated in the eight months which have elapsed since hostilities ceased, by far a greater percentage of her troops, than has any other of the Allied powers with the possible exception of the Australian commonwealth. This has been rendered possible to a great extent by the length of service of the Dominion's divisions at the front, by the glorious record which they achieved in the war, and by the co-operation of Allied governments and assistance rendered, notably by the United States, in relinquishing shipping in order that Canada's men might be speedily returned to the homeland from which the great majority were absent for so long a period.

To demobilize and disperse units and individuals throughout a country of Canada's length and breadth has been no simple matter, nevertheless a high rate of efficiency has been maintained in clearing troops from the Eastern seaboard to their homes, in all sections of the Dominion, without delaying the normal work of single tracked railways running from Atlantic ports into the industrial heart of the country, and on into the west. By utilizing the harbours of Halifax, St. John and Portland in the winter months, the last named being used through the good offices of the United States government as a land-

ing point for hospital cases, and with the addition of the Saint Lawrence ports to this number, with the advent of spring, the Canadian Government had, prior to the first of July, repatriated in full her four fighting divisions, large numbers of casuals who were away from their units for various reasons, on and after the signing of the armistice, and in addition to that achievement had brought home numbers of Reserve units and elements of the Forestry Corps and the Canadian Railway Troops serving with the British Forces. Owing to unforeseen difficulties in connection with labour and dock-yard problems in Great Britain, repatriation was to some extent delayed. However at this date the number of Canadian soldiers to be returned to Canada is comparatively small and these are returning by practically every sailing. It is expected that repatriation will be complete by the middle of October.

So much for Demobilization.

When once the abled-bodied soldier has been brought to his home neighbourhood, or to the Military District in which he elects to be discharged, the end of his military service is rapidly expedited and he again becomes a civilian. The question of the extent of financial assistance to be given to returned soldiers has been given most careful and indulgent consideration. It is a question surrounded with many difficulties, some of which would appear to be incapable of solution. The desire all along has been to be as just and generous as conditions will allow and the decisions reached have been prompted with this object in view.

WAR SERVICE GRATUITY.

Prior to the cessation of hostilities, there existed in Canada a system, by means of which, soldiers honorably discharged for war reasons were given assistance of a

monetary nature in the shape of what came to be termed Post Discharge Pay. Men who returned were paid on a Length of Service basis for periods varying in length from one month to three months to enable them to live in comfort until such time as they might establish themselves in civil lines of endeavour.

Shortly after the signing of the Armistice, however, and with the question of demobilization confronting the country, it was realized that the system of Post Discharge Pay must be extended to include all ranks who would return to Canada with the dispersal of the army. With this in mind, an order in council was passed on December twenty-first last authorizing the present scale of War Service Gratuity, and extending its clauses to include all officers, non-commisisoned officers and men of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who had seen service in any theatre of war. By an Order in Council passed on June 23, 1919, the gratuity was further increased to include all ranks who had seen service in England.

Under the provisions of this Order in Council, all ranks, in the Canadian army, on discharge from His Majesty's service, who have seen service without the Dominion are automatically placed on the War Service Gratuity Establishment. This gratuity is worked on a sliding scale system of payments, amounts depending solely on length of service. The Government deemed it wise however to introduce Minimum Payment Clauses, and decided that \$70 should be regarded as the smallest monthly disbursement in cases where the soldier had no dependents, and \$100 per month in the case of soldiers with dependents. Thus Sergeants, Corporals, Lance-Corporals and Private soldiers receive \$100 monthly for six months as a gratuity if they have dependents, and \$70 monthly for six months if they have no dependents. For ranks where scales of

payment are higher than the Minimum Rate mentioned, payment is made at the rate of pay of rank.

HOW PAYMENT IS MADE.

Thus a non-commissioned officer or man who served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force for three or more years, any part of which service was overseas, though scheduled to receive 183 days pay in six monthly instalments, receives instead six monthly checks for totals of either \$100 or \$70 each, while officers, whose pay ratings carry them higher than does the Minimum scale, receive six monthly checks which total in all 183 day's pay based on the remuneration to which their rank entitles them. Service in excess of two years but under three, any part of which was overseas, calls for the payment of 153 day's pay in five monthly instalments, while service exceeding one year, but less than two years with the Canadian Expeditionary Force, any part of which service was of an overseas nature, gives 122 day's pay in four monthly instalments. For service under one year including overseas service, 92 day's pay is given, payable in three equal monthly instalments. In cases where service was confined to Canada alone, gratuities are reduced by fifty per cent. These schedules are also extended to all ranks of the Canadian Naval Service and to the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, and the minimum clause pertains throughout all branches for all periods of service.



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WHAT THE SOLDIER SETTLEMENT BOARD DOES.

Gives assistance, both financial and advisory, to the returned soldier who desires to settle on the land.

Trains returned soldiers by means of courses at agricultural training centres, and grants pay and allowances to soldiers and dependents during the period of training. In addition, assistance and advice are offered by the Home Branch of the Board to soldiers' dependents in matters of household science.

When training is completed or a certificate of efficiency is granted aids the soldier in the selection of land, stock and equipment, and protects his interests by purchasing farm property in good districts, and by acquiring farm stock, both of which are resold to the soldier-farmer at cost. Further enters into agreements with manufacturers of implements, harness, wagons, etc., and lumber dealers, whereby prospective settlers may purchase these commodities from them at rates well below market price.

When once the soldier-farmer settles on his own land, the Board further assists him by placing at his disposal the services of a highly trained staff of Inspectors, and of successful farmers who are willing to assist the work of reconstruction by advising the new settler, and thus assist him to surmount difficulties.

On the 14th of June last over 17,000 returned soldiers had applied for farms, over 12,500 had been qualified by the Qualifications Committee and loans amounting to \$14,467,974 had been advanced by the Board.

In the month of May alone the Board loaned \$6,735-202 to returned soldiers and over 2,000 applications approved.

SOLDIER LAND SETTLEMENT.

IN considering the problem of returning the soldier to civilian life the desirability of placing him upon the land has been generally admitted in all cases where his aptitude for farming makes the arrangement reasonably certain of success. Canada was one of the first belligerent countries to accept this principle. She was one of the first to study it in all its details and to work out a practical and far reaching scheme of Soldier Land Settlement. Long before the Armistice was signed an efficient organization known as the Soldier Settlement Board had been created and the armistice found it in good working order, ready to take care of the stream of returned soldiers who have seized the opportunity presented to them by the Dominion Government of owning and developing fertile Canadian farms.

FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD.

The Soldier Settlement Board, exercises a number of important functions in aiding the soldier to become a successful farmer. Where instruction is necessary it provides facilities for instruction. It lends him money to purchase the land, for the purchase of stock and equipment and for the improvement of his property. The soldier-farmer may borrow as much as \$7,500 from the Government at a low rate of interest for these three purposes.

To meet the necessary financial calls of the prospective soldier-farmer, the Government has introduced a Loan Schedule, by means of which the settler is assisted to purchase land, stock and equipment. A sum of \$4,500 has been set aside as the maximum which may be borrowed from the Government for the purchase of land. A further \$2,000 is allotted for the purchase of stock and equipment, while \$1,000 is assigned as the maximum loan for build-

ings and other permanent improvements. This brings the maximum loan per individual to \$7,500. A very noticeable feature, however, of loans made to date, some 4,262 in number, lies in the fact that the average borrowings from the Government total \$3,394 per head, a sum well below the maximum permitted. These loans are made on lengthy terms of repayment, and at a very low rate of interest.

The Board also may loan to settlers on Dominion Lands in the West for livestock and equipment and permanent improvements up to \$3,000 depending upon the value of the security, and may loan to settlers who already own land up to \$5,000 to discharge incumbrances on agricultural land and for equipment and improvements.

MUST PROVE SUITABILITY.

Before the Government will make financial grants to soldier settlers, qualifications must first be shown. Should the prospective farmer prove beyond all doubt that he is capable of owning and operating his own farm, no time is lost in granting him all possible assistance both of a pecuniary and advisory nature. To those whose qualifications are deemed temporarily insufficient, courses in agriculture are offered during which instructional period the government pays the student-settler while preparing him for endeavour in the field of agriculture. Once he has graduated and has successfully proved his capabilities, his course becomes plain sailing. The Government is then prepared to lend him moneys to the extent of \$7,500 and to offer him every advice and assistance in becoming an independent farmer. Loans are issued through District Boards established throughout the Dominion, while experts assist him in the choice of land, purchase land for the prospective soldier-settler, and re-sell it to him at cost, and further guard him from the wiles of the trickster by assisting

and advising in the matter of purchases of stock and equipment. The Soldier Settlement Board has undertaken the purchase of satisfactory farm lands in suitable districts, and has also purchased many head of splendid stock, which in turn have been turned over to the soldier-farmer without profit to the Government.

Soldiers' dependents may also reap the benefits of the Soldier Settlement Act, and in the cases where the prospective farmer's womenkind are unversed in the ways of the farm, their instruction in woman's work, and the daily round of housewifely duty is undertaken by the Home Branch of the Settlement Board.

Thus the Government policy has become far-reaching in its efforts to assist and induce the returned soldier to carve for himself a career in the broad fields of agricultural development.

SUPERVISION AND ADVICE.

When the soldier-settler moves to his own farm he is not lost sight of by the Board, which maintains a force of competent inspectors and supervisors who regularly visit him and render such assistance in the way of practical advice, as may be required. The co-operation of local agricultural bodies and individual farmers is also enlisted for the purpose of assisting the new settler, and smoothing the road to agricultural success.

Provision has been made to handle as many as fifty thousand soldiers if that number desire to settle on the land. It is hoped that in the neighbourhood of forty thousand will avail themselves of the Government's offer. Already in less than five months, 17,109 men have applied for certificates testifying to their fitness to settle on the land, of which number 12,594 have been passed as capable farmers. Of this number approximately five thousand are already engaged in the development of their own farm property, and are well started on the road which leads to suc-

cessful farming. Up to the 14th of June, loans amounting to \$14,467,974 had been granted by the Board.

The number of loans approved by the Committee up to that date was 4,262. A great many others are under advisement and this total will be considerably excelled.

The average amount of loans granted by the Soldier Settlement Board is \$3,394.

\$8,710,128 represents loans on the purchase of land or for the discharge of incumbrances.

\$4,848,491 represents the amount of money loaned for the purchase of livestock, implements, wagons and other equipment.

\$673,729 is the amount loaned for permanent improvements.

In the month of May alone the Board loaned \$6,735,202 to returned soldiers. Over 2,000 applications for qualification Certificates were approved by the Board during that month.

For the present, only Canadian soldiers who served overseas are being aided by the Government in this respect, although the benefits of the Act will later be applicable to soldiers of the Imperial Forces and to men who fought for others of the overseas Dominions.

WHAT THE DEPARTMENT OF SOLDIERS' CIVIL RE-ESTABLISHMENT DOES.

Offers a wide range of industrial re-training for ex-members of the Forces whose disabilities prevent them following previous occupations.

Maintains a Branch of Information and Service to place the discharged soldier in touch with all employment opportunities.

Provides medical service and adequate pay and allowances while patients are undergoing treatment for disabilities due to war service.

Offers treatment for those who have a recurrence of illness on account of war disabilities.

Gives free medical treatment for all ex-members of the Forces within one year after discharge from the army.

Provides artificial limbs and orthopaedic appliances for ex-members of the Forces.

Maintains Sanatoria for the specialized treatment of ex-soldiers suffering from tuberculosis.

Maintains a comprehensive system of out-patient clinics including night clinics in the larger centres.

Provides curative training and occupational workshops in hospitals to aid speedy recovery from disabilities.

SOLDIERS' CIVIL RE-ESTABLISHMENT.

AS the Canadian Expeditionary Force was returned to Canada, various problems were presented. The disabled man required further treatment, the maimed desired artificial limbs, the blinded soldier needed training, while many of those physically fit had to be placed in touch with employment opportunities. To solve these problems the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment was organized and it is the purpose of that Department to provide for the wants of the discharged soldier in all these matters.

Many of those who were wounded suffer such disability that they cannot resume their former occupations. To overcome that handicap the Vocational Branch takes the men after discharge from hospital treatment and re-trains them in some suitable occupation so that they may become economically independent. While being so trained pay and allowances are provided for these men and for their dependents.

To place men in touch with employment opportunities the Information and Service Branch has made industrial surveys, maintains employment offices throughout the country, and gives specific information as to the benefits provided by the Government in behalf of ex-members of the Forces.

The Canadian Government was the first of the Allied Governments to create an organization under Government supervision to definitely deal with the re-establishment in civil life, of ex-members of the Forces by the appointment of the Military Hospitals Commission in June, 1915.

The benefits made available through this governmental agency and the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment, into which it developed, have been so comprehensive, and so successful in the actual results secured

that they have been the subject of favourable comment both abroad and here.

FORMED PERMANENT MINISTRY.

Over a year ago at the Inter-Allied Conference on the rehabilitation of the disabled, which was held in London, the statement was made that it must have seemed to the Canadian delegates to the conference, that much time was spent in the consideration of problems for which the Canadian Government had already provided solutions that were entirely satisfactory.

As the war continued and the importance of the work carried on by the Military Hospitals Commission was recognized, the Canadian Government took a progressive step in forming a permanent ministry, looking to the increased responsibilities in this connection immediately succeeding the demobilization of the Forces.

The Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment has not only successfully coped with the problem of the medical treatment and vocational training of disabled ex-members of the Forces, but it has also developed an efficient organization for the purpose of placing undischarged demobilized soldiers in touch with opportunities for employment.

Generally speaking, the duties of this department are divided into three headings:—

- (1) Medical Service.
- (2) The re-training of disabled men.
- (3) The problem of bringing undischarged demobilized men in touch with opportunities for employment.

THE MEDICAL SERVICE.

The growth of the work in the Medical Branch has been tremendous. In June, 1918, the number of patients

being cared for by the Department was only 1,200. At present 10,780 patients are under treatment. This total includes 1,729 tubercular patients; 688 insane patients, 4,163 medical and surgical cases, and 4,200 patients receiving treatment in clinics and outpatients in hospitals.

Patients in hospital and their dependents receive adequate pay and allowances while patients are undergoing treatment for disabilities due to war service.

Those who have a recurrence of illness on account of war disabilities may return to the department for free treatment under the same conditions.

Free medical treatment is also given to all ex-members of the Forces who fall ill, from any cause, within one year after discharge from the army.

ARTIFICIAL LIMBS AND SURGICAL APPLIANCES. VOCATIONAL RE-TRAINING.

This branch has given service to 13,754 amputation and orthopædic cases since its inception. Of artificial limbs 3,439 have been supplied up to date, 2,676 being for leg amputations, and 763 for arms. 3,076 pairs of orthopædic boots have been supplied.

Canada, by the establishment of a Government-controlled factory for the manufacture of artificial limbs, orthopædic boots and surgical appliances, originated a policy which is being followed by Allied Governments.

Over two years ago this step was taken by the Canadian Government, with a view to preventing the possibility of private firms profiteering at the expense of those unfortunate enough to have lost limbs while on war service.

VOCATIONAL RE-TRAINING.

Deserving special mention is the Vocational Branch of the Soldiers' Civil Re-Establishment. The growth in this branch of the work has also been rapid and large in

volume. On June 1, 1918, 3,800 men were undergoing training. To-day there are 11,161 men in training. The graduates number 4,092. It has been ascertained that 80 per cent of all graduates are earning as much, or more, than before the war.

Of all graduates 84.1 per cent are in employment. Only 8.6 per cent could not be traced, and 2.5 per cent were ill at the time this survey was made.

INFORMATION AND SERVICE BRANCH.

This branch of the department exists for the purpose of placing in touch with opportunities for employment undischarged ex-members of the Forces, and to give them specific information as to the benefits provided in their behalf by the Government.

To date 204,326 ex-members of the Forces have been interviewed at the time of their demobilization with a view to giving them information and assistance, and particularly for the purpose of properly informing each man as to the benefits provided by the Government in his behalf.

119,325 requests for information as to Government benefits provided for ex-members of the Forces have been satisfactorily dealt with.

89 Free Government Employment Offices have been opened from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for the purpose of assisting ex-members of the Forces to get in touch with opportunities for employment.

53,165 applications for placement in touch with opportunities for employment have been received. 34,618 of these applicants have been placed to date, or 65.1 per cent of the total number of applications.

ORGANIZED INFORMATION.

One of the biggest achievements of this branch was the securing of accurate information of every member of the

Canadian Expeditionary Force as to his intention regarding employment on returning to Canada. This was done by means of demobilization questionnaires.

Within two weeks after the signing of the armistice a representative of the branch was sent to England for the purpose of making a complete survey of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, with a view to securing complete and correct information from all members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force as to their intention regarding employment on their return to Canada, so that adequate plans might be made prior to their return to implement their rapid absorption as civilians in the national life of the country.

It was necessary to create an organization overseas sufficiently active and elastic to secure the correct completion of questionnaires by each soldier in the Canadian Corps.

The completion of this organization was not possible sooner than February 14, 1919. Prior to this date, questionnaire forms had been distributed from Ypres to the Vosges Mountains from the Rhine to the English Channel, and throughout England and Scotland. The organization so created was adequate for the enormous task. The questionnaires were completed and returned to Canada with such speed that by March 31, 1919, information desired with respect to each man was available to the representatives of the Information and Service Branch throughout 22 dispersal areas in Canada. This represented the tabulation and distribution throughout Canada of over six million items of information.

The overseas representative of the department also carried on an active campaign for the purpose of informing the troops about to be demobilized as to the various benefits provided by the Government in their behalf. This was accomplished by having lectures delivered to the troops, and by having distributed to them thousands of specially prepared pamphlets, by advertising in those

newspapers and periodicals which have wide circulation amongst the troops and by showing of specially prepared moving pictures.

In addition to this a representative of the department travelled from England to Canada on each transport carrying soldiers for demobilization. He delivered lectures daily to the men during the voyage, and furnished them with information on any subject affecting their civil re-establishment.

Meanwhile there had been made effective an adequate organization for placing demobilized soldiers in touch with opportunities for employment after their return to Canada.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICE.

Free Government Employment Offices have been established in 89 towns and cities. This has been accomplished through the co-operation of the Labour Department, and under the provisions of the Co-ordination Act which is administered by that department. In each of these Free Government Employment Offices there is a special representative of the Information and Service Branch of this department, whose duty it is to deal with all demobilized soldiers seeking employment. He secures preference for returned soldiers in making appointments to positions that may be open, and through his staff carries on an active campaign with employers of labour, with a view to inducing them to secure all staff that they may require through the Free Government Employment Offices and to give preference to returned soldiers when engaging staff.

In connection with placement in employment also a follow-up system has been organized by the department, whereby touch is maintained with the demobilized soldier after he has been placed in employment for the purpose of making sure that every man, in so far as possible, is satisfactorily re-established in civil life.

It is recognized, that the measure of the success of any government activity in this connection is largely governed by the degree of co-operation its representatives meet with from the general public, in the sincere endeavour that is being made to rapidly re-establish as a producing element in the national life of Canada, every man who has seen service with the Canadian Forces overseas.

WHAT THE BOARD OF PENSION COMMISSIONERS DOES.

Examines each soldier on discharge and provides pensions commensurate with disability.

Re-examines pensioners and re-scales pensions according to rise or fall of physical condition. In cases where further medical attention is necessary, hands the pensioner over to The Department of Soldiers' Re-Establishment for necessary attention.

Awards pensions to widows, children and other dependents of deceased soldiers; commencing payment, in the case of widows and children, on the first day of the month following the month in which the report of the death is made, while other dependents are cared for as soon as a state of dependency past or future, has been proved. Up to June a total of 80,064 pensions had been granted and the total disbursements amounted to \$21,983,360.

PROVISION FOR PENSIONS.

ANY Canadian soldier or sailor disabled in His Majesty's service, is entitled to a Pension provided medical attention fails to restore him to his full normal capacity. This allotment is by no means a gift, gratuity, or reward for service. It is compensation for physical disability suffered through the war, and is entirely unaffected in the amount of its payments, by the occupation which the soldier followed prior to the war.

The administration of Pensions in Canada lies with the Board of Pensions Commissioners, and necessitates an annual expenditure of \$30,000,000. The board itself comprises three commissioners, each of whom is appointed for a period of ten years. These commissioners have exclusive jurisdiction and authority to deal with the payment and administration of pensions to all disabled Canadian soldiers or sailors, or to the dependents of deceased members of the forces. It follows that the administration of an organization of the size of the present Pensions Board necessitates a large and well-organized business machine. This machine has been constructed through the war period, and has grown from a total force of 34 members attending to the payment of 2,700 pensions, to a staff of 1,300 strong administering the routine, paying of 80,000 pensions. Districts offices have been opened from coast to coast, and in addition it has been found necessary to open a Canadian Pensions Branch in London, England.

LARGE AMOUNT EXPENDED.

A large amount has already been expended in the granting of pensions. Up to the end of June pensions

had been awarded to 17,833 dependents and 62,231 disabilities, a total of 80,064. Gratuities granted by the Pensions Board to that date were 1,054 dependents and 11,007 disabilities, a total of 12,061.

There was expended from the head office of the Board at Ottawa the sum of \$14,242,077.08 from April 1, 1918 to March 31, 1919 and in the same period from the British branch \$2,510,138.40, a total of \$16,752,215.48. From April 1, 1919 to June 1, 1919 the amount expended from the head office was \$4,369,773.21 and from the British branch \$861,372.08 making a total of \$5,231,145.29 and a grand total expenditure since April 1, 1918 of \$21,983,360.77.

Fully three-quarters of the Pensions paid are for disability reasons, while the remaining twenty-five per cent represent payments to the dependents of deceased service men. These were originally paid in accordance with the Pay and Allowance regulations laid down by the Department of Militia, but from time to time these amounts have been increased, and in the autumn of 1917, an order in council was passed, inaugurating a complete new basis of Pension Regulations.

The Pensions scale which the Dominion government has ruled shall become effective September 1st, 1919 is more than one third higher than that paid by any other nation. The amount payable to a private soldier totally disabled is fixed at \$720; if married \$900 with \$144 for first child and \$96 for subsequent children. In case of total helplessness a special allowance up to \$450 may be granted. These amounts include a bonus authorized in July, 1919.

Before discharge, each soldier is examined by a Medical Board, and as a result of the findings established, the Pensions Board is given a working basis as to the soldier's disabilities, by which it is mainly guided in its decisions as to the pension to be paid. The soldier is then notified as to the amount of pension recommended by the local

officials, and if dissatisfied with the finding, will be furnished with transportation to the nearest District Office and will there be given re-examination. Should the results of this examination justify an increase in the award, an adjustment is affected without delay. Medical re-examinations are conducted periodically in order that pensions may be adjusted in accordance with developments in the soldier's condition. Should it be found that further treatment is advisable, the soldier is handed over to the Hospital Authorities, Department of Soldier's Civil Re-Establishment, in order that this may be provided.

PENSIONS TO DEPENDENTS.

In the case of dependents, the procedure is somewhat different. Pension to a widow is awarded immediately notification of her husband's death is received, and payment commences from the 1st day of the month following the month in which the report of the death is made. The principle of "Proven dependency" is applied in regard to dependents other than widows and children. Parents or persons acting in the place of parents who are dependent on a deceased member of His Majesty's Forces, or who would in the future have become dependent, are awarded pensions in amounts sufficient to provide maintenance.

Thus it will be seen that what is true of Canada's effort to assist the returned soldier and his dependents in other branches of endeavour, is equally true of the benefits extended to the returned man through the medium of the Pensions Branch. Any disability incurred during service, no matter how slight is sufficient to necessitate the payment of a pension in proportion commensurate to the degree of disablement, while widows, orphans and dependents of the Dominion's fallen are also benefited and assisted through the financial remuneration granted.

IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.

Repatriation of Soldiers' Dependents.

The important work connected with the repatriation of soldiers' dependents from Great Britain to Canada is now being carried on by the Department of Immigration and Colonization. Between the signing of the Armistice, November 11, 1918, and the end of January, 1919, the arrangements for the repatriation of soldiers' dependents were made by the Department of Militia and Defence.

Great difficulty has been experienced in handling the movement as rapidly as desired owing to the lack of shipping following ship losses during the war. It was hoped at the outset to bring these dependents back at the rate of about one ship-load a week, but steamers have not been available to that extent. Despite all difficulties, however, about 22,000 women and children, the dependents of Canadian soldiers, have been brought back to Canada at Government expense since the signing of the Armistice.

Soldiers' dependents are given all assistance possible in Great Britain prior to departure for Canada, and everything possible is done to ensure for them a pleasant and enjoyable ocean crossing. The Government provides 3rd-class rail in the British Isles; 3rd-class ocean; and colonist rail in Canada to destination in Canada. Colonist cars are equipped by the Government with mattresses, blankets and pillows. Two Red Cross Nurses, a Medical Officer, and an Immigration Officer accompany each Special Train to destination, with a view to looking after the dependents' comfort, etc., *en route*. The Department also has accompanying Officers (one man and one woman) on ships carrying soldiers' dependents to attend to their wants and comfort during the voyage, the officials being in addition to the regular Military conducting staff.

The average cost to Canada of bringing back a soldier's adult dependent is approximately \$75.

There are still some women and children to be brought home but it is hoped that, with the early return of Canadian troops, more ship space will be now available for the return of soldiers' families.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

Returned Soldiers in the Civil Service.

In appointments to the Dominion Civil Service returned soldiers get the preference over all other applicants. During the months, April to June inclusive, 1919, 3,056 returned men received appointments in the Service, the number by months being as follows: April, 819; May, 1,390; June, 847.

The regulations of the Civil Service Commission provide for the placing at the head of all examination lists of persons who have served overseas, provided only that they obtain the minimum percentages. In other words, if it is a choice between a returned soldier who has secured sixty marks on an examination, which is the minimum, and a civilian who has secured one hundred, the former receive the appointment.

Another regulation exempts persons who have served overseas from coming within the age limit, that is from eighteen to thirty-five years, in the matter of appointments.

Successful returned soldier candidates are also exempted from the regulation requiring that a certificate of health be furnished.

Certain classes of returned soldier candidates are exempted from the payment of Civil Service examination fees.

In addition, the Civil Service Commission has secured the approval of Council for the following recommendations; (a) the admission to all examinations without regard to length of residence in Canada of all British subjects, who were domiciled in Canada at date of enlistment, and who have served overseas in the present war; (2) The exemption of returned soldier candidates for the examination for senior clerks from the requirement of three years' office experience.

In short, as all permanent positions in the Civil Service are now filled by competitive examination, such examination being either written, oral, or practical, the effect of these regulations is that, wherever returned soldier applicants possessing a minimum of qualifications are available, the competition is limited to them and the civilian applicants are not considered until all such qualified returned soldiers have been offered appointment. The Great War Veterans' Association is represented on all board of examiners.

HOUSING AND THE RETURNED SOLDIER.

In problems of Repatriation and Reconstruction, the Canadian Government has faced no small issue in the adjusting of housing difficulties throughout the Dominion. During the past few months several thousands of Canada's citizen-soldiers have returned to the country's shores, and to provide suitable dwellings for these citizens on their return to civilian life has proved to be a huge undertaking; an undertaking in which Canada has lived up to her established precedent of strong policies in matters of Returned Soldier Activity. While the plans of Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments are not limited to ex-army men, they are intended, nevertheless, primarily for their benefit.

The solution of the Housing Problem, lies in a Federal loan to the Provinces. The Dominion Government has made provision for a loan of \$25,000,000 to Provincial

Governments at a 5 per cent rate of interest, which loan has for its objects the promotion of modern dwelling construction to relieve existing congestion of population in cities and towns; to put within the reach of all working men, *particularly returned soldiers*, the opportunity to acquire their own homes at actual cost of the building and land acquired at a fair value; and to contribute to the general health and well-being of the community by encouraging suitable town planning and housing schemes.

In a majority of provinces, special consideration is being given to the soldier, particularly in Ontario, where the Housing Act provides that a soldier may obtain the total cost of purchasing the lot and erecting a house by means of a provincial 5 per cent loan, whereas the ordinary individual must either provide the lot, clear of encumbrance, or must pay down at least 10 per cent of the total cost.

British Columbia provides assistance to the soldier's housing problem in that province, by means of power, vested in the Lieutenant Governor in Council, to convey free of cost, or partially free of cost, to any soldier, such land as may be suitable for domestic purposes. The Lieutenant Governor in Council may also convey lands to any municipality to provide soldiers' homesites. These grants are made from lands held in reserve under the British Columbia Housing Act. In addition to this Act, there also exists in the Pacific Province, an Act known as the Soldiers' Land Act, under which the Provincial Government is helping to deal with the housing problem of returned men.

The only two provinces which have failed to adopt the Federal Housing Loan Scheme are Saskatchewan and Alberta. In all other provinces housing Acts have been passed, and schemes prepared to cope with the existing situation. In Ontario alone, eighty municipalities have passed by-laws to operate under the Provincial Housing Act, and the Director of Housing states that already commitments have been made amounting to more than \$10,000,000.

